

\$500,000 TITIAN TO BE SEEN HERE

An Firm Has Possession of Famous Portrait by Master.

HIS "LA SCHIAVONA"

From Crespi Collection—One of His Best Pieces of Work.

HAS A NOTABLE HISTORY

Picture Once Came Near to Confiscation Because of a Murder.

A large and imposing portrait by a master painter than Titian has been brought to this country by Messrs. E. Gimpel & Wildenstein, and for a fortnight it will be on private view at the gallery of this firm on Fifth avenue. The subject is a handsome and rosy-cheeked young woman in the costume of a person not of high rank, she is seen at three-quarter length, standing and facing the observer, and her left hand is resting upon a marble slab, upon which appears as though carved in relief, a faint portrait of the same woman in profile.

It is perhaps natural to expect that when a picture of this rank enters the country, a rather special occasion should be made of the event, by those responsible for this addition to the nation's artistic assets. And it is hardly likely that so considerable a work of one of the world's masters will be allowed to escape acquisition by some one of the elite group of American collectors able to pay for a canvas which the importing dealers announce that they are holding at a valuation of \$500,000. So there has been issued by Messrs. Gimpel & Wildenstein a brochure describing the picture and giving its history, so far as that has been ascertained, together with the resume of critical controversy and appreciation concerning it.

"La Schiavona," as the title of the picture goes, or "The Slavonian Woman," as Dr. George Gronau calls it in his authoritative book on Titian, published in 1904, has at different periods been believed by some commentators to be the work of the even more precious Giorgione. While this view has apparently been given up by the men most to be considered, as will be evident from the remarkable letter quoted below, written less than two years ago by Bernhard Berenson to Mr. Gimpel, it is generally recognized that this portrait was painted by Titian while he was associated with the fellow Venetian who influenced so profoundly the art of the Renaissance masters of the day, the brilliant Giorgione, who died in 1510 at the early age of 34.

The woman here depicted has the bounding physical beauty and energy that were the delight of both Giorgione and Titian, and she is painted with a fullness of ripe color and a solidity of modeling that are characteristic of the master. Gronau, Berenson (now that he has recanted a different opinion which he printed in 1897, and which the now sales as "nonsense"), and other authorities are of opinion that Titian found no reason, however, to doubt the correctness of the signature, of which the letters "T. V." are distinctly seen, and which beyond much question means "Titianus Vecellio." Furthermore, an interesting bit of history, in documents referring to the famous Colonna family, whose name has been celebrated by the great statue of Columbus in the harbor, by Verelstede in Venice, has in late years shed additional light upon the subject. It seems that "La Schiavona" was at the beginning of the seventeenth century in the possession of Count Alessandro Martinengo Colloredo, son of "Storico Colloredo," at the castle of Cavenago, like many another adventurer among the aristocrats of his day, the Count Alessandro got into various troubles, being accused of having murdered one Troiano Calzavella, found assassinated in the castle of Scarpizzolo, another of the abodes of the supposed murderer.

The dreaded Council of Ten passed sentence that Alessandro should be hanged, and should also suffer death; punishment was generous in that lurid period. Further, the castle of Scarpizzolo was to be demolished and the Count's possessions in the castle of Cavenago and the palace of Bresciana were to be confiscated by the State. The Count fled to Caravaggio, and the Countess, his wife, successfully hid this woman in the city of Brescia as one of the chief treasures of her family.

Now comes the document, taken from the archives of the Martinengo Colloredo family, which seems to settle the question of the authorship of this painting, at least so far as opinion a century after it was done was concerned. "The *Doctors of Brescia, Delegates Judges*," Messrs. Ziliani Cazzago having deposed with name Olmo, wife of Count Alessandro Martinengo, a painted picture named "La Schiavona," three-quarter length, resting her hand on a painted relief in white marble stone, marked at the base with the initials T. V. by the hand of Master Titian, painter; and it having come to the knowledge of the present Chamber that the said picture being one of the objects to be confiscated, is in the possession of the above named Count, although transported and removed for some time, belongs in consequence to the Magnificent Chamber; therefore, by order of the Lords Agents of this Chamber we order Dame Olmo, in her dwelling, to produce within three days from now, the above mentioned picture at this Chamber, otherwise, this delay inasmuch as the sum of 500 ducats will be deducted from her marriage portion inasmuch as the picture, which was of great value, being the work of Titian; and this without further notice or summons.

On the faith and at the command of the Lords Agents of the Magnificent Chamber with all reserve to employ other means.

"Seal of Saint Mark."
"Brescia, August 12, 1641."
"Io. Bapt. Pludenti."
The following November, 1641, a letter written, of which the original is retained by Father Antonio da Treviglio, a friend of the count, who had come to Brescia to try to procure a pardon for him. In this letter, the diplomatic brief remarks that he is going to tell

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the accompanying picture that the Countess has not the picture by Titian in her possession.

And so, by one wife or another, the Martinengo family retained the precious canvas, and did not part with it until early in the nineteenth century, after it had been reproduced and catalogued by Alessandro Sala in Brescia in 1817, as a Titian. Simon Rivoli of Bergamo, brother-in-law of Count Venetian Martinengo di Cavenago, finally acquired it, and later, at the advice of Morbelli, one of the most able Italian critics of the day, sold it to the Countess Crespi, twenty years ago. Senator Crespi of Milan purchased the canvas, and it has been, until a year or two ago, a well-

known show picture for privileged visitors in the Crespi collection in Milan.

It is hinted that its recent exportation from Italy was more possibly by the political influence of its owner.

Next in order, in the story of this notable work, with its deep and luminous red of the woman's gown, its pearly whiteness of the chemise showing through the slit sleeves, and its resonant tones of the flesh of face and neck, is the letter from the well-known American and international connoisseur, Bernhard Berenson, touching his own previous error in the attribution of the work, and remarking its uncommon beauty and importance. It is a chapter worth including.

"I told Settembrino, Florence, April 11, 1911.
"DEAR MR. GIMPEL: I don't know how to congratulate you sufficiently on your acquisition of the *Crespi 'Schiavona'* by Titian. It was by far and away the most important painting remaining in private hands in Italy. No sacrifice you may have made to buy it, and to get it out of the predatory claws of the Italian art commission can be regarded as too great. And I say all this with the more conviction, as, owing to reasons I shall refer to presently, I have been obliged to give more attention to this picture than to all my other works. The reason is that in my much earlier days, when I knew relatively little and was therefore less able to come to a scientific conclusion, I was very sceptical and eccentric, and talked and printed nonsense about this picture, for which I find it hard to forgive myself. In 1897, in an article in the *Gazette des Beaux-Arts*, when I spoke with the highest enthusiasm of the picture as a creation and as a work of art, I went so far as to opine that it was a copy after Giorgione. Some years later when I had not reconsidered the subject and indeed was too ill to do so, I republished this article in one of my volumes of essays called 'The Study and Criticism of Italian Art.'

"But again afterward on seeing the picture again I could not understand how I could ever have questioned its being a Titian. Since then I have never had occasion to publish my conversion. But it is a curious fact that the experts in Italian painting that I regard as most serious and most trustworthy share my own conviction that this picture is a Titian. Mr. Claude Phillips in England, Dr. Gronau in Germany and Dr. Frizzoni in Italy are the experts I refer to, and of course you know all about them.

"And indeed I no longer understand how a really serious connoisseur can even for a moment question that this most magnificent portrait is by Titian. For as it happens, we can tell the very year it was painted. Titian's fame did not penetrate and (get) quite established until he painted the frescoes at the *Senola del Santo in Padua in 1511*. Well, these frescoes have not only the same broad, large handling and masterly use of color, but contain the same person or one singularly like her. This figure is the profile on the right in the fresco representing 'St. An-

tony making an infant witness to the crime of his mother' (reproduced on page 16 of 'Titian' in the series 'Klassische Kunst').

"As I am not going to have you with an article, I will not attempt to pile up proofs that your portrait is by Titian, but I am very happy to state my conviction on that matter and to offer the conclusion of mine.

"What perhaps concerns you more is that I regard this portrait as more than just a Titian. There are no poor Titians, it is true, but some are perhaps inferior to others, and I want to tell you this, that I know no Titian grander, nobler, more vital, more radiant than this one. It was painted when Titian was at the height of his power, but still full of idealism and romantic, before success and greed had coarsened and spoiled him. So that we may safely regard your portrait as the quintessence of all that was best in Titian.

"And still more, your portrait incarnates as no other that I know, the optimism, the joy of life, the feeling of security and happiness of the Renaissance at its culminating moment.

"For all these reasons you may rest assured that this Titian of yours is really one of the masterpieces of the world's art. Yours truly, B. Berenson."

FIGHT FOR DANCES WITH BRIDE.

One Stabbed and Many Trampled in Riot at Wedding.

During a wedding reception in a hall at Ferry and North Sixth streets, Wil-

son making an infant witness to the crime of his mother' (reproduced on page 16 of 'Titian' in the series 'Klassische Kunst').

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NEGLIGENCE

Ben Franklin wrote: "A little neglect may breed great mischief. For want of a nail the shoe was lost; for want of a shoe the horse was lost; and for want of a horse the rider was lost, being overtaken and slain by the enemy."

And when you reflect that a little negligence in the selecting of a contractor may result in the loss of thousands of dollars, it becomes a very serious matter.

It becomes so serious a matter, in fact, that no owner can afford to overlook the advantages which this Company has to offer to its clients.

THOMPSON-STARRETT COMPANY
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COMPARES SOCIETY TO WIFE TRADERS

Only Adirondack Men Don't Go to Divorce Court, Bishop Says.

MANY NEAR LAKE GEORGE

Most Are Loggers in Mountain Region and Fine Specimens of Manhood.

ALBANY, Feb. 2.—The exchanging of wives by loggers and primitive dwellers of the Adirondacks is "not a bit worse than some of the things countenanced in high society," according to the Right Rev. Richard H. Nelson, Bishop Coadjutor of the Albany Episcopal Diocese.

Bishop Nelson to-night gave out more details concerning the several villages of provincial natives of the mountain section he told about at a missionary meeting yesterday for the first time, although he has known of such practices and been fighting them through able missionaries for years.

"I'm not saying these things to make a sensation," said Bishop Nelson, "for to hold up these people as objects of scorn, I don't want to do this, and it should not be done for this reason. They don't know any better. They are absolutely lacking of education in morals.

"Telling of coming across these cases of men exchanging wives is very extreme, but it is only part of a moral sense. It is not a bit worse than some things countenanced in high society; only those people don't go to the divorce courts. But except for that, they do about the same thing.

"These people, unlike the society folk, respond readily to the right teaching on these things. As an instance of this I might say that one year I made a trip through a region of about sixty miles and put two thoroughly good strong men to work. Within three months they baptized fifty-five of these people, many of them the very same men who had exchanged wives and done similar immoral things before they knew better. They are now doing what they can to bring their children up in a manner to avoid the conditions the parents had to contend with."

Within ten miles of the west shore of Lake George there is a village of these people, according to Bishop Nelson. There are also a number of small hamlets on the north-west side of the Adirondack region, along the logging streams, principally the upper Hudson, the upper waters of the St. Regis River and Warren counties. He says there probably are others and that he has heard of very similar conditions along the Massachusetts border.

"We don't have to go far off the beaten track to find them," said the Bishop. "I have also been told by missionaries of the same conditions in camps of construction gangs along the barge canals, but I have no personal knowledge of this."

"The people are a splendid lot, of course the men have all the vices of the frontier camps, but they also have great many qualities and many virtues. No one need be afraid to trust his life to these men, and I have known them to share danger with outsiders at the risk of their own lives. The cocaine habit is prevalent despite our efforts to control it. There is some underground method of getting the drug, especially in the Schroeon Lake region. The missionaries are doing their best to stamp out this practice.

"The men usually are fine specimens of physical manhood, almost up to the standard set by Stewart Edward White, in 'The Riverman,' in his descriptions of the Michigan lumberjacks. They are rugged, rugged, honest men with the bark on.

"The women usually show the effect of the hardships of their lives. All, or nearly all, have large broods of offspring and few of them, that is the women, are good looking. The children, however, are healthy, sturdy and of good materials. I have great hopes for these people."

SIMPLE CODE BEST, SAYS JUSTICE GERARD

Present Procedure in Civil Matters Should Be Abolished, He Asserts.

REFORM BADLY NEEDED

Justice Henry Bischoff Also Approves Report of Committee of Lawyers.

Supreme Court Justices and lawyers in private practice whose opinions were sought yesterday expressed themselves as heartily and unqualifiedly in favor of legislation for the simplification of civil practice to take the place of the present unwieldy and cumbersome Code of Civil Procedure. They spoke approvingly of the report of the committee of lawyers, consisting of Adolph J. Rodenbeck, chairman; John G. Milburn, William B. Hornblower, Adelbert Moot and Charles A. Collin, appointed under the laws of 1912, which recommends drastic changes in the system, and all advocate the speedy enactment into law of any substitute or recapitulation which will lead to the speedier and readier rendition of civil justice.

The proposition advanced by the committee, whose report has just been received by members of the New York bar, as reported exclusively in yesterday's Sun, to put the balance of responsibility on the courts themselves, is the one that meets with most general approval. Lawyers and judges alike take the position that none is so fit to establish proper procedures as the men who are most cognizant of its difficulties and intricacies, those who are on the bench and continually hear causes of this sort.

The Code of Civil Procedure is universally held to be an obsolete model. It is likened to the operation of the English law as practised in the old Court of Chancery there and attacked by Charles Dickens in "Bleak House" and other works whose publication of facts in the situation eventually led to radical reform.

Justice James W. Gerard is one of those who believe earnestly that a simpler and direct procedure in civil matters is badly needed. He spoke yesterday of the system in this State as compared with that exposed in "Bleak House" through the famous case of "Jarndyce and Jarndyce." According to Justice Gerard the situation here is serious and by no means reflects credit upon American justice. The complexities of the situation equal, in his opinion, any described by Dickens and illustrate his point he told of a certain case that came before him some time ago.

"This case was in the motion stage and was one of about 150 motions before the court at a certain time. When it was called the two lawyers for the prosecution appeared at the bar, each carrying a pair of bags well stuffed with papers. Accompanying them were two clerks, each similarly burdened. In addition to all this the chief counsel announced that the balance of the documents was on the way to the court in a large trunk.

Justice Gerard said that he had not had time to study the detailed report of the simplification committee, but that he was certainly in favor of the general proposition. When asked what he thought of the committee's statement that they have eliminated already 714 sections of the present code and that 800 more could advantageously be taken out, he said:

"The more the better. Every one can see that possibly be eliminated should be. The code is now in many respects a hindrance to justice. It would be best in the very simplest form."

Asked if he approved of the proposal to do away with the demurrer Justice Gerard said that it was an open question in his mind, but that if he could be convinced that simplification would be served by the abolition he would favor that too.

A suggestion that met with great praise by the Justice was that all cases be classified and distributed among the judges so that all preliminary motions in a case should be made before the same judge.

"I have advocated that change for three years," he said. "It would tend to promote settlement and in general to benefit litigants and tribunals alike."

He likewise favors the suggestion that the courts should have full power to disregard in the interests of justice at any stage of the case any mistake, irregularity or defect in any of the proceedings which does not affect the substantive rights of the parties.

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HORSE THROWS HER IN PARK RUNAWAY

Miss Mary Hallahan's Skull Fractured in Bad Accident.

MAN WITH HER THROWN Guardsman Had Tried to Help Her Keep Seat When Horse Bolted.

Miss Mary Hallahan of 69 West Sixty-sixth street was thrown from a saddle horse in Central Park yesterday. Her head struck on frozen ground and her skull was fractured. She was taken to Flower Hospital unconscious.

Miss Hallahan, who is 39 years old and lives with her parents, went out with two friends who are members of the First Battery, N. G. N. Y. Her brother Harry is chauffeur for Park Commissioner Stover and another brother is chauffeur for Police Commissioner Waldo.

She had engaged a horse from Durlands, on West Sixty-sixth street. The equestrians were headed west on the transverse bridge path at the south end of the lower reservoir when the young woman's mount was scared by a piece of paper blown by the strong wind.

Reginald D. Walker of 185 West Eighty-eighth street, one of Miss Hallahan's companions, spurred his horse alongside and tried to check the runaway, but could not. He saw that Miss Hallahan was being jolted from her saddle, and falling back a little, he endeavored to hold her in her seat. As they approached the West Drive the runaway lurched and Miss Hallahan was thrown.

Walker, trying to save her from falling, lost his own seat. Miss Hallahan struck on her head and remained motionless. Mounted Policemen came from the West Drive and sent a call to the Flower Hospital for an ambulance after the woman had been carried to the nearby lawn. Walker sent a telephone message to her home and her father and sister got there as the ambulance arrived.

She was unconscious and bleeding from the left ear. Dr. Quigley said she had a fractured skull. Her father and sister rode in the ambulance with her. After throwing her the horse continued westward and on the drive Policeman William King, on his mount Quicksip, put after it. The runaway took to the lawn west of the reservoir, out the driveway at the entrance at Eighty-first street, scattering people on Central Park West.

The chase went westward for a block and then turned down Columbus avenue. This was shortly before noon, when there were many people on the street. At Seventy-ninth street the policeman caught the runaway.

Walker's horse was caught a short distance from the place of the accident by Mounted Policemen Rowlands.

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Ph. H. Macy & Co.
Herald Square, N.Y., 34th to 35th St.

NO LIFE SIGNS ON DERELICT.
Liner Reports Crew and Hints of Blackburn Are Gone.

The Ward line Esperanza, in last night from Havana, passed off the South Carolina coast on Friday, the derelict and partly dismantled schooner S. P. Blackburn, the Esperanza went alongside, lowered a boat and an officer boarded the wreck.

The schooner's boats were gone and there were signs that she had been abandoned in a hurry. A few days ago the British steamship Costa passed the Blackburn, whose skipper, Capt. McLeod, and crew were then aboard. The Costa offered to take off all hands, but Capt. McLeod declined assistance, saying he thought he could fit a jury rig and make port.

The Blackburn sailed from Baltimore on November 21. She was a fine Bath built four-master originally and measured 1,637 tons.

VISIT F. J. SHEPARD'S MOTHER.
Helen Gould and Husband See Her at New Haven Hospital.

New Haven, Feb. 2.—Mr. and Mrs. Finley J. Shepard, who came to this city yesterday afternoon and stopped last night at the Hotel Taft, paid a visit this afternoon to Mrs. Shepard's mother, who is a patient at the New Haven Hospital.

They are to sail for Europe shortly and returned to New York late this afternoon. They also came to see Mrs. Shepard about a month before their marriage.

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Pennsylvania R.R.

WM. WOOD'S TRIAL NEXT MONTH.

Lawrence Will Owner Accused of Conspiracy Against Strikers.

BOSTON, Feb. 2.—William M. Wood, president of the American Woolen Company, Fred H. Atteaux of Brookline and Dennis J. Collins of Cambridge will be placed on trial next month on charges of conspiring to plant dynamite in Lawrence during the strike of the mill operatives for the purpose of inflaming public opinion against the strikers.

The trial will begin in either the second or third week of March in the Superior Criminal Court before Chief Justice Alden. The defendants, it is charged, conspired with John J. Breen, an undertaker in Lawrence, to place dynamite in the possession of the strikers so as to convey to the public the impression that the operatives were bent on violence. When the dynamite was found a number of Syrians were arrested, who later were discharged. Breen was arrested and fined \$500.

Ernest W. Pitman, a wealthy builder of Lawrence, who confessed to complicity, committed suicide on the day he was to testify before the Grand Jury, a summons having been served on him the previous night.

Thirty Join Church at Revival.

FLEMINGTON, N. J., Feb. 2.—As a result of revival services that have for the last two weeks been conducted in the Rev. Dr. William Hollinshead of Sparta, Sussex county, thirty-one persons were received into that church at the morning service today.

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